

From: Czeekh
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:09pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Greetings,

I realize that you must be getting many e-mails on the subject of the MS settlement, but please read this. Unlike many that have likely e-mailed you, I am not a professional. I am instead part of America's youth. You may think that the MS decision will only affect the Computer Industry, but it will also affect the future of everyone who uses a PC. I have some experience with Linux (an open source alternative to the Windows operating system) and I have found it to be equal to Windows, if not better. If you allow MS to get off with a "slap on the wrist" they may very well demolish such operating systems as Linux. If you really want to stop MS's monopoly, you won't let them get off so easily. This is because if they do they will have more money and resources to drive competitors such as Apple, Linux, and UNIX. The future of the world may be sealed in your decision. Everyone could end up having to use Windows, for everything. The reason that I don't care for Windows is that it is incredibly "buggy" and in many cases technically inferior to competitors.

Let me give you an example of what MS's Windows ME (Millennium Edition) did to one of my teachers:
My teacher was at home, using MS Word (note that it was an MS program) and suddenly his computer locked up for unknown reasons. He tried everything that he knew to do and couldn't get the computer to return to normal. As a result, he restarted his computer. When he did, his computer said that it needed to run a Scandisk (I am sure you have seen that). He let it run. It took two hours to run the Scandisk, it normally takes between one and two minutes. Windows had reformatted his hard disk drive. All of his data was lost, everything. He had done nothing wrong, and the program that he was running when it locked up was a program made by MS itself. This is why I say Windows is inferior.

Now, do you want this program to be what people are suck with FOREVER. I know that MS will always have competitors, but letting them "off the hook" will simply allow them more money to destroy their competitors. Is that the American Way? Are we so dependent on "Social Darwinism" that we can allow this to happen? Are you? Remember that people like me and others of America's future will be deeply affected by your decision. Computer's are the future, but one single operating system is not. Thank you very much for taking time to read this.

Sincerely,

Eric Fisher
Manilla, Indiana

